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# FIELD CROPS

PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS FOR 2000

## FLORIDA AGRICULTURE



April 1, 2000

### FLORIDA

Florida farmers indicated in early March that they intend to plant more cotton, and wheat, and harvest more hay in 2000 than in 1999. The acres of peanuts and tobacco will be less than last year. Growers intend to plant the same amount of corn and soybeans in 2000 as in 1999.

Corn producers expect to plant 90,000 acres, the same as last year. The acreage planted to cotton is expected to be 120,000 acres, 12 percent more than the previous year. Peanut acreage is expected to be 98,000 acres, 4 percent less than last year. Soybean acreage is expected to be 20,000 acres, the same as 1999. Tobacco acreage at 4,900 acres is 18 percent less than last year. The winter wheat acreage, at 20,000 acres, is up 25 percent from a year earlier. The hay for harvest acreage is estimated at 270,000 acres, up 4 percent from the previous year.

### UNITED STATES

**Corn** growers intend to plant 77.9 million acres of corn for all purposes in 2000, up 1 percent from 1999, but down 3 percent from 1998. Expected acreage is down in Nebraska, the Great Lakes region, and mid-Atlantic States due mostly to dry conditions. Intended acreage is up in the central Corn Belt, northern Plains, Southeast, and West.

**Soybean** producers intend to plant 74.9 million acres in 2000, up 1 percent from last year. If realized, this will be the largest planted area for soybeans on record. Of the 31 soybean producing states, producers in 10 States intend to plant more acres this year, while producers in 13 States intend to plant fewer acres than in 1999. Seven states are unchanged from the previous year. West Virginia acreage estimates are included for the first time.

**All wheat** planted area is expected to total 61.7 million acres in 2000. This is down 2 percent from 1999 and the lowest level since 1973. Area planted to **Durum wheat** is intended to decrease to 3.61 million acres, down 11 percent from 1999. The 2000 other **spring wheat** planted acreage is estimated at 14.8 million acres, down 4 percent from last year. If realized, this will be the

smallest area since 1988. Of the total, about 13.8 million acres are Hard Red Spring wheat.

**All cotton** plantings for 2000 are expected to total 15.6 million acres, 5 percent above last year. If realized, this would be the largest acreage since 1995 and the second largest since 1962. Upland acreage is expected to total 15.3 million acres, up 5 percent from 1999. All 17 Upland cotton producing States intend to increase acreage from last year. Growers intend to decrease their plantings of American-Pima cotton to 217,000 acres, down 25 percent from 1999. All American-Pima cotton producing States intend to decrease acreage from last year.

**All Hay** producers expect to harvest 63.1 million acres of hay in 2000, down less than 1 percent from the 63.2 million acres harvested the previous year.

**Peanut** producers intend to plant 1.47 million acres of peanuts in 2000, down 4 percent from last year. Of the nine producing States, four intend to plant less acres of peanuts in 2000, three States are showing no change from 1999, and two States are expecting to plant more acres. Southeast growers (Alabama, Florida, Georgia, and South Carolina) expect to plant 841,000 acres, down 3 percent from a year ago. In the Virginia-North Carolina region, producers intend to plant 201,000 acres of peanuts this year. This is down slightly from 1999. Growers in the Southwest (New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Texas) intend to plant 432,000 acres, 7 percent below last year.

**Tobacco** for harvest in 2000 is forecast at 500,700 acres, down 22 percent from 1999. If realized, this will be the lowest all tobacco acreage level since 1874. Large acreage reductions are expected in all Flue-cured and Light Air-cured tobacco. Planting intentions for Cigar Filler and Cigar Wrapper are also down significantly. However, Fire-cured, Dark Air-cured, and Connecticut Valley Broadleaf intentions are up slightly. Flue-cured tobacco, at 253,900 acres, is 16 percent below a year ago. Flue-cured acreage, which accounts for 51 percent of this year's total tobacco acreage, is expected to hit its lowest in recorded history. Acreage in North Carolina, the leading State, is down 16 percent from last year.

Prospective plantings for 2000 with comparisons

Crops	Florida				United States			
	1998	1999	Indicated 2000	2000 as % of 1999	1998	1999	Indicated 2000	2000 as % of 1999
	1,000 acres				1,000 acres			
	Percent				Percent			
Corn:								
Planted for all purposes	160	90	90	100	80,165	77,431	77,881	101
Cotton, Upland planted	89	107	120	112	13,064	14,565	15,341	105
All Hay, harvested	230	260	270	104	60,076	63,160	63,052	100
Peanuts:								
Planted for all purposes	98	102	98	96	1,521	1,533	1,474	96
Soybeans:								
Planted for all purposes	35	20	20	100	72,025	73,780	74,871	101
Tobacco, harvested								
All types	6.8	6.0	4.9	82	717.6	644.3	500.7	78
Type 11-14	6.8	6.0	4.9	82	368.8	304.0	253.9	84
Winter wheat	15	16	20	125	46,449	43,431	43,245	100